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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Kenneth W. Wheelock et al.

Application No. 10/016,378

Filed: December 10, 2001

Attorney Docket No. B05593-FAL

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed October 28, 2003, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is Granted.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner in reply to the non-final Office action mailed February 3, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three months from the mail date of the Notice. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 have been obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on May 4, 2003.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$950 extension of time submitted with the petition on October 28, 2003 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center AU 3681.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Latrice Bond at (703) 308-6911.

Latrice Bond

Paralegal Specialist

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Commissioner

for Patent Examination Policy